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SWORN IN GIVES UP

Constitutional Convention Formally Organized Today

Guthrie, Okla., Nov. 21.—The constitutional convention was formally organized here today when the officers elected yesterday were sworn in by John H. Burford, chief justice of Oklahoma. William H. Murray, the president of the convention, will name his committee tomorrow. The convention will get down to the real business of making the fundamental laws of the new state early next week.

After organizing yesterday, and electing officers, the constitutional convention did but little business. A committee of seven was appointed to determine what committees should be appointed as follows: R. L. Williams, W. C. Hughes, Flowers Nelson, Peter Hanratty, D. S. Rose, Clint Graham and E. R. Williams.

W. H. Kornegay was appointed chairman of committee to invite the United States officials to be present at the session of the convention. The other members of the committee are Messrs. Messenger and Cantrell.

C. H. Patterson, J. B. Gardner and Luke Roberts were appointed to decide what other officers ought to be appointed besides those already chosen.

SNOW BLOCKADES

All Railroads in Kansas are Troubled by Heavy Snowfall.

Topeka, Kan., Nov. 21.—A heavy fall of snow continued in Kansas today. The Rock Island is now moving all its overland trains on the El Paso division, which was blocked yesterday, but is not attempting to keep up the freight schedule. The Santa Fe main line across the state is reported open, but traffic in the southern part of the state. The Union Pacific reports much snow on its lines, but that all trains are running on time.

COUNTY SEATS CAUSE TROUBLE

J. W. Orr returned last night from Guthrie, where he has been watching the organization of the constitutional convention. He says the county seat proposition will give much trouble, and that already several hot fights are brewing. One of the most active lobbies in the county seat fight is maintained by Chelsea, which, however, in order to win, must overcome the combined opposition of Vinita, Claremore, Pryor Creek and Nowata, each of which towns is about twenty miles from Chelsea.

J. J. Spencer, who went to Guthrie as a candidate for sergeant-at-arms, did not return with Mr. Orr. The he was defeated for the office he sought, he thinks he will be taken care of by the convention in some manner, and will remain in Guthrie a short time to see what turns up.

A COLLISION ON SANTA FE

Hilton, Colo., Nov. 21.—Santa Fe passenger trains Nos. 5 and 6 collided head-on here this morning. Fireman Kerr was killed and two unknown passengers were probably fatally injured, while others were badly shaken up. The locomotives on both trains and the mail car on No. 6 were demolished.

Secretary Taft Will Proceed to Dismiss Negroes.

Washington, Nov. 21.—The war department issued the following statement today concerning the negro troops ordered dismissed at Fort Reno, Okla.:

"In the matter of the order discharging the enlisted men of three companies of the Twenty-fifth infantry issued by the president an application was presented to the secretary of war by a number of persons of standing asking for a rehearing by the president. The secretary telegraphed the president of the receipt of the application and ordered the proceedings of the discharge of the men delayed until the president could indicate his wishes.

"The secretary was in the meantime called out of town. No answer was received from the president. The secretary on his return did not feel justified in further delaying the execution of the order of discharge, especially in view of the fact that the secretary then learned that the president had fully and exhaustively considered the argument of the persons who had applied for a rehearing.

"Accordingly the secretary directed yesterday that the proceedings for the discharge of the three companies be continued without delay."

Mr. Taft in the above explanation indicates that he will not oppose the president's order for the dismissal of those three negro companies responsible for the recent riot at Brownsville, Texas. The secretary's order delaying the discharge was misinterpreted, and it was thought he would join issue with the president at the question.

GREAT QUESTIONS

Discussed by Speakers at Trans-Mississippi Commercial Congress.

Kansas City, Nov. 21.—At the Trans-Mississippi Commercial congress this was to be a day of speeches, according to the prearranged program. Many additional delegates who were delayed in reaching the city by the storm, north, south and west, arrived last night and today.

The topics up for discussion today included the improvement of waterways and levees, trade relations with South American countries, the reclamation of submerged lands, public drainage matters, insurance contracts, naval construction and Alaska.

It was intended to give the Latin-American diplomats, who were crowded out of last night's program, a chance to speak. Among the speakers on the program were the following: W. D. Vandiver, superintendent of Insurance of Missouri, on "The Business of Insurance from a Western Standpoint;" John Barrett, American minister to Colombia, on "The Panama Canal and Our Great Undeveloped Opportunities in South America and the Pacific Ocean."

PRESIDENT IS IN PORTO RICO

Ponce, Porto Rico, Nov. 21.—President Roosevelt arrived here this morning and was received by Governor Winthrop and other prominent Insular officials. The town is crowded with people.

Dockyards Fire.

Toulon, France, Nov. 21.—The main portion of the dockyards of the Societe des Forges et Chantiers was destroyed by fire today. Several foreign warships in course of construction were saved with difficulty. The loss will be close to a million dollars.

COLLISION AT SEA COST FORTY LIVES

Steamer Dix Sank in Puget Sound Within a Minute After Colliding With Steamer Jennie

Seattle, Wash., Nov. 19.—The steamer Dix, Captain H. H. Mason, bound from Seattle to Portland, and loaded with many passengers, sank two miles north of Alkali Point at 7 last night after having collided with the steamship Jennie of the Alaska Coast company.

Forty-one passengers and members of the crew of the Dix are missing, and 30 were saved. The Dix was totally wrecked, and almost all the crew were lost. The master of the Dix, however, was saved.

The collision occurred while the sound was smooth. The Jennie was backing when she collided with the Dix. Although the impact was slight, the Dix listed heavily, righted herself a moment afterwards, and then sank stern first. There was hardly time to launch the life boats or rafts before the doomed vessel was almost totally submerged.

The passengers, in panic, jumped from the decks into the water. Women screamed, while officers and men called orders that could hardly be heard above the din. The passengers of the Dix who could swim made their way to the sides of the Jennie and were dragged aboard. The Jennie cruised about the scene of the wreck for some time after it had occurred, picking up several persons who had managed to stay above water.

For a minute after the crash all was still, and then a panic followed. When the Dix started to sink passengers and crew leaped into the sound. Some of the passengers clutched together in groups on the deck as the ship sank, while others knelt in prayer. The women, who had little chance for their lives, stayed with the sinking steamer and were drowned.

DEMOCRATS CELEBRATED

W. H. Kornegay, constitutional delegate from the 50th district, acted as host Saturday night at Welch's restaurant to a hundred Democrats, who celebrated in hearty fashion Mr. Kornegay's recent victory. The invited guests were the members of the township committees and the township executive committees of the 50th district, besides the prominent party workers from all over the district.

Seymour Riddle acted as toastmaster, while at his right sat Mr. Kornegay, and at his left T. M. Hurlington, state executive committee man from this district. There were no set speeches, but impromptu remarks were made by a large number of those present, among those who responded being F. S. E. Ames, Theodore D. R. Frear, M. E. Simerson, D. C. Roper, Davis Hill, J. S. Davenport, S. F. Parks, Mr. Jenkins, D. W. C. Dunsmuir, J. J. Spencer, W. T. Murphy, E. N. Hatchell, W. L. Gibson, J. W. Adair and J. B. Turner.

Mr. Turner presented to M. E. Simerson, committee man from the 17th precinct, a fine American flag, in recognition of the fact that that precinct returned the biggest Democratic plurality of any in the district. W. H. Kornegay closed the speech making by a few brief remarks, in which he thanked those present for their loyal work and rejoiced with them in the victory. He made but slight reference to politics.

Mr. Welch served a fine meal, and the occasion throughout was one that every one enjoyed. The banquet party did not disperse until a late hour.

COMPANIES TO BE INVESTIGATED

Washington, Nov. 20.—Secretary Metcalf of the department of commerce and labor has directed the commissioner of corporations to make an investigation of the action of the fire insurance companies in the settlement of claims for losses resulting from the earthquake and fire in San Francisco and other places in California. Geo. E. Butler who has had a long experience in the fire insurance business on the Pacific coast, has been appointed a special agent to conduct the investigation in California.

A marriage license was issued yesterday afternoon to Albert Deltrick and Miss Emma A. Grove, both of Vinita.

SNOW STORM IS SEVERE

Kansas City, Nov. 19.—Western Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and a part of Oklahoma are covered with several inches of snow today. In Kansas a high wind is blowing and the snowfall continues. The temperature has fallen 15 degrees since last night.

El Paso, Texas, Nov. 19.—Snow has been falling steadily here since last night. It is very cold, and heavy damage to cattle and sheep in west Texas and New Mexico is feared. It is one of the most severe storms ever known in El Paso.

Kansas City, Nov. 20.—A severe snow and sleet storm in the Mississippi and Missouri valleys today delayed trains and interrupted wire communication. In parts of Oklahoma and central Kansas sleet is still falling. Four Rock Island passenger trains are stalled in cuts between Bucklin and Liberal, Kan.

In southern Colorado the temperature is eight below zero. Early in the day telegraph communication between Kansas City and St. Louis was entirely cut off. Many western delegates failed to get in today, being storm-bound in Kansas and Nebraska.

Memphis, Tenn., Nov. 20.—With rain still falling the situation in this section is more serious. It is estimated that the food loss in this country is already approaching \$250,000.

Here in Vinita the storm seems to be over. It is one of the most severe ever experienced at this season of the year, but little damage was done. Railroad service has been but little interrupted. The fast mail from St. Louis this morning arrived on time.

THIEF MAY DIE FROM WOUNDS

Persons coming here from Blue Jacket report that a farmer living near there, named Quinn, a few days ago shot a negro named Thompson, whom he caught in the act of stealing chickens. Thompson's condition is now so serious, it is said, that he may die. Quinn came to Vinita a few days ago to give himself up, but went away without having seen the officials, having been advised by his lawyer that he was justified in shooting the negro. Thompson was struck with a full load of shot, most of which entered his body.

DOUST THEM HOT WORDS

Mayors of Kansas to Be Compelled to Enforce Law

Topeka, Kan., Nov. 21.—Attorney General Coleman today filed out suits in the supreme court directed against the following persons and corporations: A. B. Kirkwood, mayor of Pittsburg, Kan.; F. W. O'Donnell, mayor of the city of Pittsburg, Kan.; and the city of Junction City, Kan.

The suits against the mayors are to cost them from office for failure to enforce the prohibition law, and the suits against the municipalities are to prohibit them and their officers from the illegal process of collecting licenses from joints.

TIGER IS DEAD

Young Bishop of Methodist Church Past Away in Tulsa

Tulsa, Nov. 21.—Bishop John J. T. gert of the Methodist Episcopal church South, died here early today after a ten days' illness. He was 45 years old, and was only appointed bishop in May at the Birmingham conference. He came here last week to attend the Indian Mission conference, and was taken sick immediately upon his arrival. His home is in Louisville.

NEW PASTOR FOR VINITA

Rev. W. S. P. McCullough, the new pastor of the Methodist church in this city, is a native of Texas, and is still on the sunny side of 40. He has just finished a four years' term as presiding elder of the Mangum district in Oklahoma, where his work has been very successful. Mr. McCullough is married, and has a wife and four boys. He is a genial gentleman and an excellent preacher. It is expected that he will arrive here some time next week to take up his work.

Rev. H. B. Watson, former pastor in Vinita, and last year pastor of the Broadway church, Ardmore, was transferred from the Oklahoma conference to the Little Rock conference in Arkansas.

CITY SCRIPT MUST BE SOLD

The board of directors of the Commercial club has retained the firm of Riddle & Clapham to assist the city attorney in drawing up valid ordinances for the paving of Illinois avenue and South Wilson street and to help also in disposing of the scrip that must be issued to pay for the improvement. It is the latter part of the task that is the difficult part.

The law passed at the last session of congress, authorizing the issuance of scrip, is not a very good one, and it is difficult to draw the ordinances in such a way that a firm can be found to take the scrip at par, which the law provides must be done. The lawyers are hopeful, however, of finding someone to take the scrip soon, so that the work of paving may be commenced by spring.

Rose Ivy, in a Woman's Will

The Rose Ivy company will present "A Woman's Will" at the opera house Thursday, November 22. This unique production is calculated to arouse more real interest than anything seen at the opera house lately. Miss Ivy is a New Zealander, has had the distinction of appearing before crowned heads, and has literally toured the world over in her great representation entitled, "A Woman's Will." Apart from this, Miss Ivy stands among the few really great singers of the day.

Used Before Senatorial Committee at McAlester

The senatorial investigating committee has been rather lost to sight this week, owing to the overshadowing interest in the constitutional convention. Since Saturday night the committee has been in McAlester. On Sunday the committee visited a number of the coal towns around McAlester, and on Monday hearings were begun in McAlester. The principal topic discussed has been the question of the disposition of the coal lands of the Cherokee nation. Judge J. Henry Sheppard made a strong plea for the sale of surface rights to settlers.

The most sensational incident of the hearing at McAlester occurred Monday night, and is thus described by the McAlester Capital:

Dr. J. S. Morrow, president of the Murrow Indian Orphans' Home, was concluding an impassioned appeal to the senators for aid for his institution. His address had also taken up the question of removal of restrictions, in which Dr. Morrow is bitterly opposed. Toward the last, the reverend gentleman's remarks began to take on a tinge of recklessness in the form of charges against the white population of the territory, and Senator Teller, who has always been one of the few at Washington who declined to entertain wholesale slanders of such character, began to squirm around in his seat.

Finally he interrupted, with a rather hoarse look and an air of finality.

"We wish you well, Dr. Morrow," he said, "but it will be only six months now until you people have a state of your own, and then these problems can be taken up and disposed of by your own legislators."

"Well God help the poor fullbloods then!" was the excited reply.

This roused Chairman Clark, who both looks and acts like a man that would not tolerate slander of any description.

"Dr. Morrow," he called sharply, "do you mean to stand there and seriously tell this committee that the 1,200,000 people of this new state of Oklahoma, drawn as they are from the best blood of the entire nation, are going to deliberately conspire to rob a poor, pitiable remnant of an Indian tribe, a few scattered thousands whose lot happens to be cast among them?"

"I certainly do," was Mr. Morrow's excited rejoinder.

"Well, I don't believe it," the chairman snapped out, followed by a storm of applause from the audience, and a voice from the rear: "You have insulted the people of the state of Oklahoma!"

Still the doctor held his ground, and in order that there might be no misunderstanding he slowly and solemnly asserted: "I believe it as firmly as I am standing here that the people of this state of Oklahoma will rob the fullbloods of every foot of their lands if they can."

With a look of pity Chairman Clark tapped on the table and declared the session adjourned.

DECISION AFFIRMED

Buffalo, Nov. 19.—The court of review of the Episcopal church today affirmed unanimously the decision in the case of Rev. Crapery, convicted by the council of heretical teaching.

WILL MARRY AMERICAN

Paris, Nov. 19.—Rumors to the effect that Mme. Calve is betrothed to a rich American and will never appear on the stage are apparently confirmed, the name of the future husband has not yet been given out.